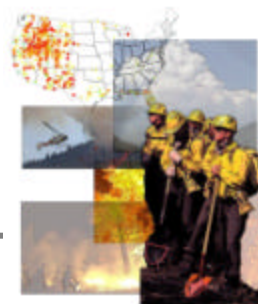


# The National Fire Plan

USDA Forest Service and Department of Interior

## Community Assistance



### The National Fire Plan - Overview

In August 2000, the President directed the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior to develop a response to severe wildland fires, reduce fire impacts on rural communities, and assure sufficient firefighting capacity in the future.

The Plan addresses 5 Key Points: Firefighting; Rehabilitation and Restoration; Hazardous Fuel Reduction; Community Assistance; and, Accountability.

### Community Assistance Budget Summary (\$ in thousands)

National Fire Plan	USDA/FS	DOI	FY 2001 Total
Rural Fire Assistance	n.a.	\$10,000	\$10,000
State Fire Assistance	\$75,494	n.a.	\$75,494
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$13,280	n.a.	\$13,280
Economic Action Programs	\$42,836	n.a.	\$42,836
Community & Private Land Assistance	\$35,000	n.a.	\$35,000

### Rural Fire Assistance

Provides funding to Department of the Interior to enhance firefighter safety and strengthen the wildland fire protection capabilities of rural fire departments that provide fire support on federal lands by providing technical assistance, training, supplies and materials, and support to public education efforts.

### State Fire Assistance

Provides funding to the USDA Forest Service for technical and financial assistance to the states to enhance a strong readiness capability at the state and local level. Also supports fire hazard mitigation projects in the wildland urban interface. To build upon existing public education efforts, an expanded series of FIREWISE workshops will be conducted across the country, to help communities implement FIREWISE practices that reduce fire risk. Support is also included for an expanded national public service fire prevention program.

### Volunteer Fire Assistance

Provides funding from the USDA Forest Service, through the States, to volunteer fire departments, to improve communication capabilities; provide additional wildland fire management training; and, to purchase protective fire clothing and firefighting equipment.

### Economic Action Programs

Provides funding for USDA Forest Service Economic Action Programs that work with local communities to identify, develop and expand economic opportunities related to historically underutilized species, and wood removed through hazardous fuel reduction treatments. Information, demonstrations, application development and training will be made available to participating communities.

### Community and Private Land Assistance

Provides funding to the USDA Forest Service to support replacement of facilities destroyed by fire, in particular fences. In addition, high priority hazard mitigation projects will be implemented by States, in areas of the country most affected by wildfire. A complementary effort will fund a series of pilot projects promoting biomass utilization for energy production.

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